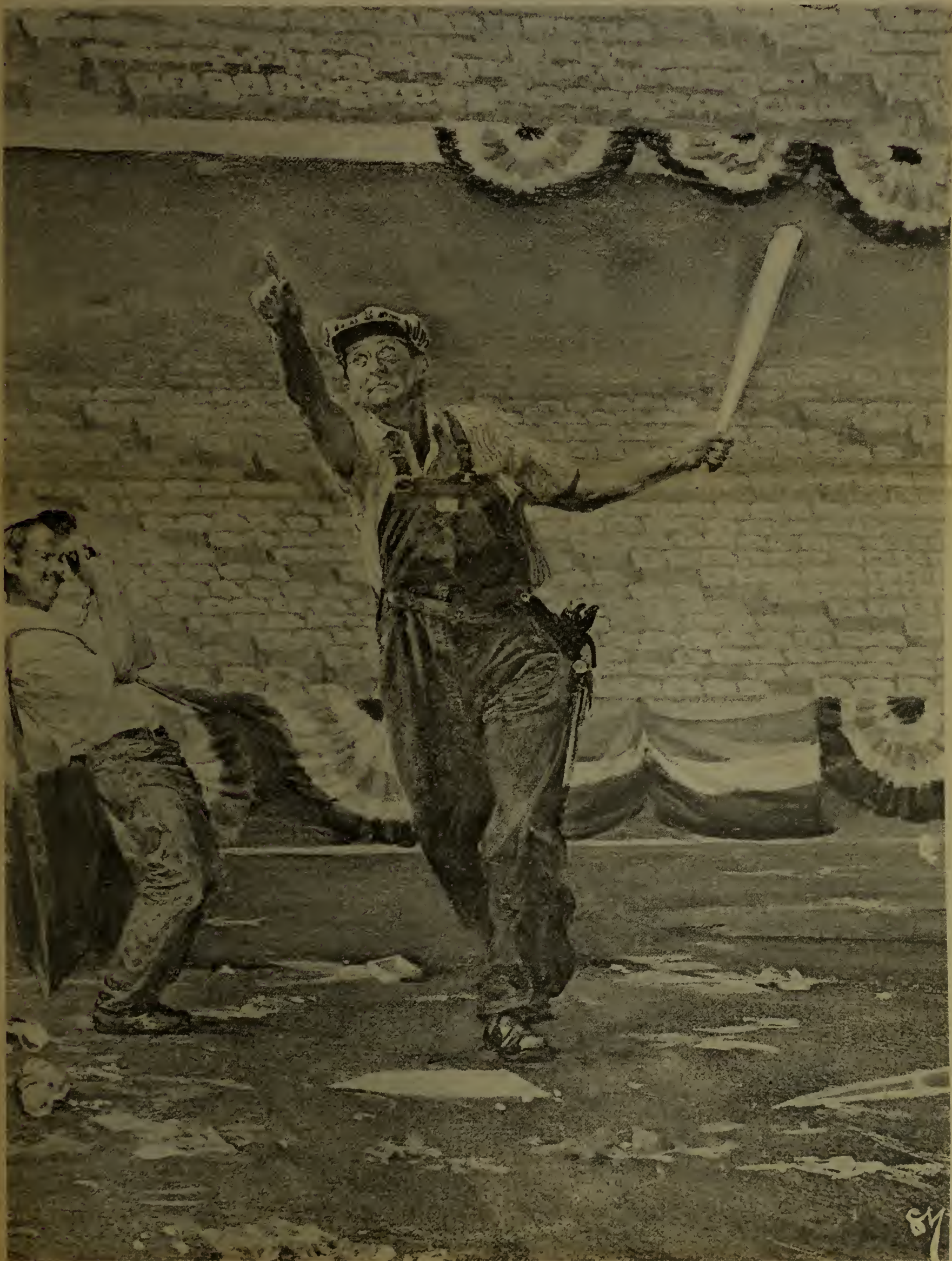


# RHETORIC

Vol. 2 No. 9

March 29, 1976





# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

... AND OTHER PEOPLE



IF THE FOOD SHITS WEAR IT

MACKINAW

Dear Editor:

I would like to express my disappointment in the resident cafeteria policy of serving second helpings before the other people waiting in line have had firsts. Wednesday night, March 10 we waited in that line for supper from 5:10 until 5:40. While we were there we repeatedly saw lines of mostly guys up for seconds while we waited for our first. This encouraged many in the line to put their coats at a seat and pretend they were up for seconds THEN get trays and silver, which only worsened the problem. If everyone did that, the place would be a madhouse!

I would like to suggest that the cafe revamp its present policy and make second helpings available to those who go to the end of the line only.

Sincerely,  
R

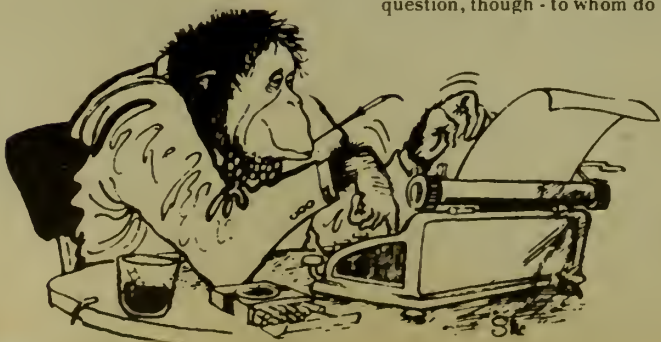
## WE ARE DOOMED TO LEAD LIVES OF QUIET DESPERATION

Dear Mr. Miller,

For everything you've done for us, we thank you. We learned things from you...not only how to run or jump, but you taught us the more important things of being on a team. We made it through defeat and victory together, and we cheered each other on. You gave us a team spirit which no one could destroy. Although at times, we weren't very organized, we did only lose '2' meets and even at those 2 times, we had a hell of a time.

We want you to know that we appreciate all of the time, effort and sacrifice you gave us. For so many things...We Thank You.

Katie Griffin  
Donna Morello  
Mary Maschelenko  
Leslie Groidano  
Peggy Shugrue



Dear Editor,

In view of the latest edition of the 'RHETORIC' I would like to comment on some disturbing issues that "were not" in the paper. I would like to ask that someone on your staff, the voice of the student body, to investigate the administrative brass and the jobs to which they proclaim to fulfill. What I would particularly like to find out is: Why is there a need for this school to have three administrative deans, namely Durante, Fitzgibbons, and Keenan, when they accomplish nothing for this school? And why must the students suffer academic cutbacks, in the form of teacher layoffs, when there is too much God damned padding in the administration already?

Why are they (the administration) constantly harrasing the only people on this campus who supply the students with entertainment, at no profit except to defray costs? I speak of the clubs on campus. Have the administrative higher echelon actively supported the programs and schedules of the clubs on this campus? No!! They just sit on their fat asses and some of them smoke their equally fat stoggies and say NO NO NO NO. Why are they and what are they doing for the students who are on this campus? I ask each of you individually, Durante, Fitzgibbons, and Keenan to reply publically. Answer the queries of concerned students.

Submitted with suspicion,  
Frank Nitie M.  
Box 5853

## NO ESOTERIC VALUE

In response to your last issue -

1. Frankly, I didn't think it was all that bad so your psuedo-apology which was actually a slap on the hands of the apathetic masses in disguise was unnecessary. So what if it wasn't a humongus (that's pronounced hew-mung-gus) issue - at least it wasn't filled in between with all the usual garbage.  
2. Thumbs up to Robert G. Carrick for verbalizing what I'm sure most of us feel. (Extension on the Pub hours). I have one question, though - to whom do we direct our

wishes in this matter - the Rhetoric, the President, or the Campus Center Director? (or d. none of these).

Now for some general trivia, late but better than none at all.

I enjoyed the F.S.C. in the Dark column and would like to see it regularly if the writer could do it. I realize creative urges such as that are hard to come by, but try.

Thumbs down to whoever wrote that editorial about Winter Carnival Week - Olympic Foolery especially. Personally, I find that one week the most intersting and looked-forward-to in the entire year (except the first week of June). Just because you (I'm directing this to the author) find yourself too lofty to find enjoyment or entertainment in such mortal activities doesn't mean the rest of us agree with you. Maybe I'm too stupid to realize my own ignorance, but I thought the Jonathan Edwards/Wendy Waldman concert was by far one of the best to reach the campus, and being a participant of Olympic Foolery gave me a chance to laugh not only at others but myself too. I never knew I was such a klutz. And the Semi-Formal, if nothing else, was a hellava lot classier than any All-College Party. Maybe you don't enjoy the Winter Carnival Week because you haven't looked beyond yourself.

Here from me in another letter - I remain,  
Me

## EPILEPSY & BUTTERFLIES

To the Editor:

Clearly visible to anyone who has the sense of sight is the fact that the new Student Union Building has a considerable amount of unused space. Yet there is not one area designated where a cigarette smoker can study in peace. The lounge, you say. Rubbish I say. Have you ever tried to study hour upon hour amidst the noise down there. The noise there is not the problem, for there should be noise there. The problem is that you cannot smoke in the library where there is solitude.

Now I am a reasonable man and understand that you cannot allow smoking in the library for a countless number of reasons. But there ought to be somewhere for us habituated inhalers. The fact is that it is next to impossible for we smokers to study for 3 or more hours with a cig., and stopping everytime you want one disrupts your study processes.

It is a habit and a vice, and you may not feel sorry for the smokers at F.S.C. but none the less it is discriminating to ignore our plea. A cup of coffee and a cigarette is on my list of requirements when studying for a test. And for that matter, you can't drink coffee in the library either.

I'm not even sure the administration ever thought about this problem, but I hope this letter will make them aware it does exist. I do not expect to turn the library into a lounge. I am only requesting a quiet, study area where students can feed their habit and accomplish some school work at the same time. This request is reasonable and important, and I hope it won't go ignored.

Thank you,  
"Can't study".

## LOOKING AT ANAL INTERCOURSE THROUGH THE REARVIEW MIRROR

I would like to take this opportunity to vent my inner frustrations and anger which are resulting in severe inner conflicts. It is an age-old subject and everything has been said before but what is solved? Apparently nothing. I am referring to the ever-continuing archaic attitudes towards women.

First off, I am by no means a feminist. I am what I like to refer to as an individualist. I feel that what the individual does is his/her choice and should not be morally judged. That's all fine and dandy, right? So apparently I'm in the minority. Let me quicken to my point. . .

Last night a few of us girls got drunk. I don't mean tipsy, I mean DRUNK. Well, as anyone knows, drunks usually infringe upon other people around, which is unfortunate but true - for this I'm sorry - I apologise for all the spilled beers, the jostling and just plain obnoxiousness. What I am not sorry for are my actions. When I get drunk I get just as horny as anyone else, so naturally I get friendlier. But just because I sit on someone's lap or put my arm around the nearest male doesn't mean I am going to score.

YET, (and this is my major pont) when guys get drunk around here and pull the same moves it is ok. People justify men's actions by "Oh, he was just drunk." JUST drunk. But a GIRL for shame is loaded, polluted, a sleaze, pick-up and anything else derogatory that comes to mind. And if a guy is seeing one girl, steady, or even engaged, and he decides to go out for an

evening with another, maybe get it on and just plain have a good time with no strings attached it is okay too. "He's just getting it out of his system" or "Just sowing wild oats". But if a girl does the same thing - well, we all KNOW what she is, don't we. Well, I think all this double standard business is a crock of dung. And it is an attitude so prevalent at this campus it makes me sick.

I am left with two alternatives . . .

1. I can go on as I am and say the hell with everybody else and their attitudes or 2) Go along with everyone, stop fighting it and be a boring, "nice" girl. YUK!

And if there are any guys who continued reading this far, I congratulate you. And to any girls there are still reading I say stop letting others run your lives like this and take a stand, either for or against but don't sit back meekly and take it all. Like they say, you are what you eat. I'm not signing my name to this for the simple reason that anyone who knows me knows who wrote it.

## ON SOLAR ECLIPSES

To the women of FSC:

This is in response to two letters which appeared in the last issue of the RHETORIC, one signed "A woman (a real one)", the other from "Please Cantigo".

Being one of the minority sex in this school, I felt the need to respond to the authors of those letters, and indeed to all the other females at FSC who share the same or similar opinions as the two letters. On reading them, I go a very hostile impression, directed to the males of this school. Probably (and I'm merely speculating here) the two writers were releasing pent-up anger, caused from the seemingly intentional apathetic attitude of the males of this school toward the females here. Such anger is understandable, and I do not mean this in a sexist, chauvanistic way. That is something I am not!

Surely it must be frustrating for an attractive, intelligent but quiet girl to be ignored by that attractive, intelligent but also possibly quiet guy! Naturally she assumes he's just not interested, even though he may aimably greet her when by chance they walk by each other, or meet in the Pub or library, for instance. You girls might say, well, he's friendly enough, why doesn't he make his move??

Believe it or not, girls, not all guys may find this particularly easy. Sure, we've all done it before. But speaking for myself, and indeed other guys I've talked with (but of course not all), it doesn't get easier with practice. As much as a guy may want to go over and speak to you whenever he sees you looking at him, it's not always so simple. You see, not all of us guys are as ego-oriented or as macho and confident as we may appear to be, or as you women may think!

For myself, I've been told by a number of female friends that I have a lot going for me: good looks, personality, manners, etc., and that meeting girls should be no problem for me. Now I'm not patting myself on the back - it's just with all these pluses working for me, I probably could get that date with you, Sensuous Lady. But for a "non-egoed" male such as myself, it's difficult to go over and talk to you, without knowing more about you than perhaps your name, if that!

What I'm getting at is this: girls, there are less uptight, ego-oriented guys here than you seem to think - open YOUR eyes!! That attractive, intelligent but quiet guy in your class, in the Pub or library may be, just MAY BE, waiting for some recognition from YOU! Who the hell says you CAN'T take the first initiative? And why do you assume we'd say no, anyway? You shouldn't think so little of yourselves!

We're living in a time of human equality for all, or so I thought. And I know more guys accept this when it comes to women than these guys may lead you to believe. So why, women of FSC, are you so frightened of the whole concept? To quote one of you, "Take a chance (women), it beats the hell out of lonely loving!" Try it, you may be surprised. Tell me now, what can YOU lose? No more than we males can!

signed  
"No ego here"

## NATALIE WOOD VS. SHIRLEY MacLAINE WHO HAS NICER LEGS?

With various campus organizations sponsoring All-College Parties at local clubs, be advised that the place to go should not include the Mohawk Club in Shirley. We had the unfortunate experience on Wednesday evening, March 10, of being, uh, deceived. That is, we held up our end, that is, we held up our end of a bargain to attract business to the club, but were not compensated with the promised dollar a person. Contact any of our club officers via the Geography Office for further details.

Officers of the Geography Club



# MORE LETTERS

## LETTERS FROM BERNIE

At this time, I sincerely would like to express my gratitude to all of the super people who aided me in bringing bonafide Presidential Candidates to the Fitchburg State College Campus. Although the names are somewhat too numerous to mention them in their entirety, nevertheless, certain individuals clearly stick out in not underselling the contributions of others. The Administration, headed by Dr. Quigley, Dean Durant, Dean Keenan, Dean Fitzgibbon, Mr. John Boursy, Mr. Raoul Rebillard and their lovely secretaries including Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. Palmer among others; the Faculty sponsors, Professor John P. Clark and Dr. Alan Goldman; the Student Government Association run by Executive Board Officers, Scott Turner, Argerie Tolos, Wally King, Ron Gonthier, and Mary Ellen Gross; the Public Relations Committee of Student Government directed by Laura Theochares; the custodial staff under the direction of Mr. Robert McCluskey; the Instructional Media Department; and lastly, the Campus Police Officers under the command of Chief David McGuirk were all quite cooperative in making these speaking appearances a reality.

Finally, special thanks goes to my co-chairperson Alison Mitchell of the Fitchburg State College Political Action Group for her fine support and also to the rest of the hard working members of this group.

Sincerely,

Bernie Schultz  
Co-chairperson -  
Fitchburg State College  
Political Action Group

## CONTINUED

What is wrong with the Fitchburg State College student body? Well, quite frankly I will tell you that while many people label F.S.C. students as being apathetic, I truly believe that there is absolutely nothing significantly wrong with Fitchburg State College students. In fact, I further believe that they may be some of the finest students in all of Massachusetts.

Empirically, I can point to my own situation as a concrete example. Last semester (Fall, 1975), I attended a small private college in Boston as a transfer student after having attended Fitchburg State College for 2 years previously. Since it was a small school, one got acquainted with many of the people associated with it. For the most part, the students hardly studied and would party day and night with no regards for tests, papers, or anything else remotely related to school. Moreover, their final grades were of little importance to them because as long as they passed the five years of study, their wealthy parents would continue to supply them with money for their expenses (parties). As for the school itself, it cared little for competence as long as payments kept rolling in.

An example of a typical student is a guy I was familiar with in my brief stay. Although he purchased a meal ticket, he bought sliced roast beef at the local Star Market each day at over \$3 a pound. Even more amusing is this small episode: one evening this same person received three correspondences from home. (He was, of course, a dormitory student.) All three envelopes contained substantial sums of money. Apparently the letters had been sent at varying times; however, all the money arrived simultaneously.

Getting back to the students at Fitchburg State, a majority of them work long and hard hours for small sums of money to remain enrolled here. A quick glance at 22 year old summer season hot dog man Bill Collins is just one small illustration of this point for there are certainly more. And although F.S.C. students do know how to enjoy life on occasion, they also are, at times, quite devoted to their studies. This is probably the major reason for the so-called "grade inflation" phenomenon. The fact of the matter may well be that students, particularly those at Fitchburg State College, are studying more vigorously now due to the prospect of a scanty job market.

In closing, I must say that I am once again

proud to be a member of the Fitchburg State College student body. Indeed, it is a pleasure to be a part of the F.S.C. student scene.

Sincerely,

Bernie Schultz

## PART III

Recently, on February 24, 1976, at a Tuesday meeting of the Student Government Association Council here at F.S.C., a Political Science Club Constitution was passed by a vote of 22-1-1. Due to its passage by the S.G.A. Council, this club is now entitled to receive S.G.A. funding.

Although the club is still in its formative stages in awaiting a final draft of its constitution after numerous amendments were made, nevertheless, the club is interested in obtaining your support via the membership route.

Therefore, if you desire to obtain membership status please drop a note in mailbox number 5321 as soon as possible.

by Bernie Schultz

## LETTERS NOT FROM BERNIE

### To "Please Cantigo"

Guts, you call it? Naw, you didn't need guts for me, really you didn't. Because a little attention from you would be a dream come true for me!! If only you'd have known that. I surely wouldn't have said no to YOU!

See, I so desperately wanted to ask YOU to the Carnival. I was afraid you'd say no. After all, why would you want to go with ME? Being as beautiful as you are, I figured you were already going with someone more popular, handsomer, or smarter than me, someone more like yourself.

As it turned out, I spent Carnival night with "Mary Tyler More". At least she's an intelligent, beautiful female, right?

Well, there's always next year for me and you. I guess.

And by the way, I didn't understand a damned thing in my textbook. I was too busy daydreaming of going to the Winter Carnival with you. . .

## LOVE IS THE ANSWER

With spring and mud and ooze coning, how about doing something about the shortcut across the quad in the direction of the I.A. and Science Buildings - sidewalks make me claustrophobic. How about an underground tunnel?

I'm so glad some of the men on campus have shaved. And I'm so glad that some of the men haven't.

As for the women - what a difference the day makes! But if you're going to wear skirts, what's the use if they go halfway to your ankles? Are knees and thighs out of style or just out of shape?

Why did APO make the Ride Board graffiti-resistant?

I think more stairways should be constructed on the quad so more people can be accommodated on good weather days.

What happened to general rowdiness? (I know, he probably joined General Mills, ha ha) I miss it.

Maybe it's my imagination, but is school harder this year? Too many people like Michael Routh of U. of Utrecht. Don't listen to him.

The new doctor in the health Clinic is great - how about an interview with her - she's like a breath of fresh air.

## BUT WHAT IS THE QUESTION

I recently read the March 5th issue of RHETORIC and it was the first issue I had seen. I am familiar with the CYCLE however, having been a student at F.S.C. previously. One can enjoy the front page humor and be sure that the paper is in good hands under the leadership of Steve Walkowicz, but one can not enjoy what the paper has to offer. The lack of content prompted me to ask myself: Why do students complain to each other and then not voice their opinion where it can be seen and heard? Are we all "teeming throngs" as the editor recently phrased it?

Obviously this letter will not get through to those of the student body who don't give a damn, but hopefully it will make those who care get off their obese anatomies and respond. I have a gripe and I am voicing it. You can accept it or reject it. But at least you have a choice.

Signed,  
Still Wondering

## ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

### WHAT

Two \$100 scholarships will be awarded by the Fitchburg State College Alumni Association on Alumni Day May 1, 1976.

### WHERE

Applications can be obtained by Fitchburg State College Students at the Alumni Office, Miller Hall, Monday - Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### WHEN

All applications must be returned to the Alumni Office by Wednesday, April 7th, 2 p.m.

Here I sit, in my room; it is prime time (9:17 p.m.) and nothing to do. Let me explain. . .

Tonight there are four activities going on, all of which I would like to attend. There are probably more, but I only know of these four:

1. Laughter and Tears at McKay Auditorium - Free w/I.D.
2. Movie - Scarecrow at Weston Auditorium - 50 cents w/I.D.
3. Wine and Cheese Party at Newman Center - \$2.00 to nonmembers.
4. Talent Show at the School Pub - Free admission.

Because I'm Libran I find tremendous difficulty in making decisions. As a result I missed them all, trying to decide which one to attend.

My question is, why didn't they make the Wine and Cheese party on Saturday night, the movie on Friday night and keep the other two for Thursday night choices? I'm sure there are many others that would agree with me on this subject.

It seemed as though everyone was complaining that the campus offered nothing in the way of arts or social life but now they are deluging us so we can't take advantage of everything!

Woefully, R

## HOW TO BREAK IN YOUR BASEBALL GLOVE

What with the upcoming baseball season at hand (I hope), I feel it to be a suitable time to speak on the very popular subject of breaking in your baseball glove. There are two groups, the Oils and the Solids. The oil contingent claims that a good liquid such as muskrat oil or No. 2 fuel oil will penetrate the leather and give it more suppleness and flexibility. The solid waste people use waxes, like saddle soap, or a semi-wax such as pork fat or whore sweat, claiming they do a better job of preserving the leather. These are two very good methods but I have one which, when used in conjunction with one of the above, will give you years of baseball pleasure. Here's how it's done:

1. Put a tablespoon of MSG, a teaspoon of soy sauce, and a 1/4 cup of sherry into a quart of peanut oil and marinate for two days. Adolph's Instant Meat Tenderizer can be used in place of MSG.
2. Hang your glove out to dry for ten days. This step is very crucial. The Swiss developed this air drying process while making their famous Swiss dried beef, and are now making the finest baseball gloves as well. A Swiss glove can cost as much as \$2500. In this process the air mixes with the oil and spices to filter out the weaker ingredients and preserve the good ones.
3. Buy a can of hair pomade, Grecian Formula or Vitalis, and spread it liberally over the glove with your fingers, including the linings. Remember if your hand sweats alot the linings will crack easily and your glove will be worthless.
4. Put a baseball or a baseball shaped object in the pocket of your glove, fold the fingers over the pocket, and make the ball as snug as possible. Tie the glove up securely with a rope, and put it under your pillow and sleep on it for six months.

If you buy your glove in October it will be ready in time for the baseball season in April. Do not use your glove until the entire breaking-in period is complete or your glove will crack, peel and become shitty.

## NOTICE

Song concert on Thursday, May 6, 1976. Any interested song writers who would like to participate, come to an organizational meeting on Thursday, April 22 at 1:00 in Room T-310.

Any questions - contact Box 1123

## CARMEN MIRANDA WAS A FRUIT

As I started to ponder thoughts of which to write on another matter which irks me to the point of hair pulling, I also began to wonder why I wasn't writing anything that praised our beloved school. It seems to me that there must be something worthwhile going on at this school that would take preference over my intended topic which concerned our rumored April vacation and why the students (the ones the vacation would effect) know nothing about it except that which is just rumor.

If this letter sounds confusing, it is only because I am writing it in a confused state of mind. Still, at this point of the letter, am I searching for something that impresses me or at least curls my lips slightly to form a grin.

Alas, I have an idea. While I was thinking about how I have three teachers who aren't fit to be referred to as that, it gave me the inspiration to describe two of my professors who are worthy of their status.

Not wishing to embarrass the hell out of the, but in order that they receive recognition, I will use their names.

Mr. Cunningham is indeed a fine man and an outstanding teacher. He informs and instructs in a course that could be boring and uninformative unless handled properly. The course is Health and Fitness. First of all, being required to take a course is bad enough but being required to take a course that you have no interest in whatsoever is putting salt on a wound. I can only say, thank God Mr. Cunningham is teaching the course.

Dr. Caroline Murphy is another outstanding professor. Economics, to me is two courses in one. Not only do you have to learn the principles of economics, you also have to learn the economics lingo. This lingo is like learning a foreign language. There aren't enough superlatives to describe this person as a woman and a teacher. Because she tries to make economics clearly understandable to the student and not just lecture and write on the board, it makes her one of a dying breed. It is because of this that she deserves recognition.

There now, that wasn't so bad. I knew I could write something positive. I just may try it again sometime.

Because I do not wish to let my professors know who I am, and for that matter anyone, I will remain....

ANONYMOUS

## DORMANT STUDENT BODY

It is obvious that the students of this college, to a large extent, lack the minimum interest in those functions and activities one would expect considerable participation. Besides the scrambles during school hours, life here is dormant and unattractive. Maybe this has been the status quo for many generations of students here or this coldness and insensitivity is as a result of the values of the new breed of students at FSC.

The consequences of this kind of situation has been far-reaching and cannot be overstated, yet there are no changes or reconsideration of interests within the student body.

Given a range of one to ten, the social barometer has been plummeting between one and three. The newspaper "Rhetoric" is in shambles. A few realize the function of the SGA and what it has done or failed to do. College elections for Student Government offices, class offices and so on have received little or no attention. A deeper analysis of this structure will divulge more and show an ugly picture of the I-couldn't-care-less attitude that permeates the body.

While I do not wish to go into the reasons why these happen, I wish to urge students to take active part in these affairs. Students ought to give feedbacks or responses formally thru the newspaper, or thru the SGA. In that way their wants or needs could be considered. With the election near it is not unbecoming to know about the people who are going to represent you as Class Reps or the executive board.

Due to lack of persons, I learned, the newspaper is not able to give indepth coverage of what's happening on campus. No doubt it is nonsensical to have a newspaper without people to write or help in running it. Therefore, if you care, let's declare a new era in school activities and functions.

Eny Bruno Onokala



# POET'S CORNER

## SOLILOQUEY

Poverty, it seems, is romantic only in Paris where seedy characters abound and hunger is but a temporary experience to be written about or painted on canvas Charming characters they are, in dirty rags living luxuriously in roachy rooms, lounging nightly in gloomy cafes; and every expatriot is a comrade, a friend and the sweet smell of marijuana in darkened rooms where broken wineglasses litter the floors For men the role is romantically sweet poignantly passing as the days roll by; the total freedom of the intellectual migrant How the woman longs to join their company these bohemians with interesting beards; these communists without responsibility; and yet where she to go she'd be a whore Her writing, her art must be excused The society of hobos will evaluate her and perhaps allow her to work nights A man will put his ragged arms out and she will fall raggedly between, and work as a waitress in silence as smiling she pays the concierge, and daily sweeps the crumbling carpet after still another early morning soiree, as she steps over the prone and smelly bodies

of all his artistically valuable friends, who leered at her lyrics and spilled wine all over her canvas and asked for coffee without glancing at her face Or perhaps were: she daddy's heir it might allow a modicum of freedom as she flies there to join the ranks but remain outside; And they will let her feed and clothe them, and sometimes satiate their lust at her loins Her expensive typewriter negates, of course, any value in her verse; amateur poems on pretty paper

Trapped in weary womanhood I wait envying my musician's freedom as he scorns the great god money and dreams of movin' on And I must see vicariously his voyage in a boxcar as I sit decorously in class and bide my time; working toward society's goal that I, too might later scorn them The vagrant Romeo's take their desire, prodigiously swilling wine and beer in a dozen dreary dancehalls on any empty night; While I must sit myopically mired by the tired TV - alone, or be viciously labelled "easy" as I, too, take what I want; seeking satisfaction on streetcorners; occasionally slipping into womanly weakness; shocked silence as I speak of love from the erotic ends of midnight as they run naked from my warm bed, and leave me in tearless darkness

I want to go to Paris in steaming summer and live above the cobblestones and create masterpieces in a 16th century room; but it has to have a bathroom and I loathe cockroaches I don't care about eating; would gladly starve fashionably and perhaps cop a meal from a rich friend as they do - all the men; But I, of course, would pay Perhaps they would accept me and greet me with gladness as I enter their bohemian bars; And I might find love in Paris, romance of the sort I dream about; A handsome stranger's embrace to carry me through the night; a laughing friend for daytime to stroll along the Seine with me as the Paris sun shines; joining me in winedrenched midnight; an affaire of days and nights without promises or fears of somedays, without shadows of the past or glimmerings of the future, with fullness in today regardless of tomorrow; joyous involvement in another to take with me one day when I return, as I must to the success I seek at home

MEW

## "THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS"

I no longer see a glimmer near the Misty surface; I can no longer find a clearing in the dense darkness; I cannot find a pathway thru the fatal fog.

Suddenly the importance of my garnered goals hangs limp & dry, the last lingering leaf on a tree that is dead and yet still standing.

I feel an utter fool—the butt of a great joke played for years on me by a huge & humorless power. and then again a fool to think that power exists.

I am Alice and alone; and you are all in my dream as I walk always backwards thru the eternal looking glass toward the same nothingness that stands solid behind me.

But that damned white rabbit has disappeared again; Because he has no time for me No time to get me out of this maze, Confused himself, perhaps lost, I'm a prisoner in this nightmare.

As I stand surrounded by mountain mists, apart from that silly pack of cards below; and my distorted image looms up from the depths of a murky pond; All along my empty edges the thick black forest waits.

Felicia Morningstar

## THE END OF MARRIAGE

How can you shrug me off and walk to that damned cupboard

as if my shame and my torture could be healed by a sandwich

How can you ignore the cauldron boiling between us, daily hotter

a huge black pot in the middle of the room you simply walk in circles wide around it

You belittle my dark grief and make light of my life's blood

my words that are more than myself my poetry that sings always in my mind

You make love like a child and I cannot find myself in your passion

I could as easily arouse myself and remain alone in a cold, clean bed

But I am guilty at your sorrow now that my wings beat bravely in your frightened face

Your confusion overshadows my dreams of freedom

And yet how strange it is to say goodbye to my forever friend

How lonely it looks tomorrow in a world without you

Lavinia Parker

## "SWEET SIR GALLAHAD"

My "Sweet Sir Gallahad" with caustic tongue passed briefly by as I was drifting

He held me close through nighttime terror and put my giving casually in his pocket

He listened to my bitterness and let me show my tears and was strong for me when I succumbed to wine

At least he seemed to care and his body was real and he did not turn cold in the bright blue morning

NELL

I'm feeling deep, drained, and down; but it always seems to fade away to harbor and thicken my constant pain

words equipped with silent meanings filter through the haze, echoing softly through my being— teach me to refrain.

Waves of scarlet red, slither slowly by blinding thoughts i might have had, leaving them alone to die.

So once again, mellow my mind grasping on to nothingness. quickly goes this change in time and swiftly returns my loneliness.

SIoux

## WHAT I WANT IN A WIFE BESIDES NO MOUSTACHE

Well, to begin with you might as well not apply for the honour if you have a moustache [even a blonde one].

I tend to like women who are neither tall nor short

5'5" or 5'6" is fine. And big tits are definitely out. [It's a line-long position, Babe, and sagging is frowned upon]

You'll have to love to fuck and you'd better be willing to jump me at least once a week

[The mountain coming to Mohammed] I enjoy fingernails in my back and sweet sweaty sighs on my shoulders. I grew up with Playboy under my pillow and I've always found time to fantasize.

Oh, and I like women who are smarter than me and not afraid to show it

I like women who can play tennis and who don't giggle when they miss a backhand

I want a woman who curses when cursing is necessary but not just "Oh shit! I dropped the meatloaf!" or "Oh Hell! I missed the Edge of Night!"

I like women who read poetry but not Emily Dickenson and if you like Sylvia Plath keep her books in the oven instead of a casserole.

I want a woman who loves to dance but only with me. I want a woman who will never let herself get fat but who will love me just as much when I get fat.

I like women who can talk about something instead of nothing and I like women who are too selfish to have 2 kids and be sentenced to the suburbs.

I want a woman with fire in her. I want a woman with smiles in her. A woman who dislikes vacuum cleaners the Ladies Home Journal and her Aunt Eloise. A woman who dreams of bicycling in France and making love in a tuba. One who plays the piano and who hates Robert Redford. A woman who'll drink Ripple or champagne and not ever care which A woman who'll swim in the ocean even when it's frightfully cold. One who'll tell you that you're a jerk if, indeed, you are a jerk. A woman who'll understand my jokes and who will laugh if, per chance, one is ever funny. A woman who cries but never out of weakness.

One who is easy but only for me. And one who appreciates my being hard. A woman who will not be embarrassed by my pitiful puns. [Like that last awful one.]

I want a woman who will have to leave me From time to time just to keep on loving me. But who will always return.

I need a woman who will always be mine but her own, as well. A woman who can look into me A woman who will walk alone with me.

So far, I've yet to stumble upon such a woman.

No one has ever even come close. But then I suppose I've never come close to anybody else's great expectations either. Still, if you think that you measure up to my rigid requirements By all means, send in an application and absolute proof that upon your delicate face you have nothing resembling a moustache. [even a blonde one]

I just won't let a moustache tickle my fancy.

S.W.





# Reorganization Conference held at U-Mass.

by Bernie Schultz

On Sunday, March 7, 1976, a conference on the reorganization of public higher education was held at the University of Massachusetts' Campus Center in Amherst, Massachusetts. Students from Fitchburg State College attending the conference were Sue Chillemi, Pat Donovan, Alison Mitchell, David Munroe, Alan Rogers, Bernie Schultz, and Argerie Tolos of the Fitchburg State College Political Action Group.

Among the speakers present were State Senator Kevin B. Harrington, who is also Senate President, Bruce Bishop, President of Student Government at Boston State College, Secretary of Educational Affairs Paul Parks, and State Representative James G. Collins, a Democrat from Amherst.

After Senate President Harrington gave the audience a brief history of public higher education in Massachusetts, he then proceeded to devote all of his energies in not saying a great deal of a concrete nature on his reorganization plans. In fact, when questioned of his upcoming reorganization bill, he failed to detail his intentions in the whole scale revamping of "post secondary" education. In actuality, the highlight of Harrington's appearance seemed to be his lack of consideration, commonly referred to as rudeness. When S.G.A. President Bruce Bishop followed him as a speaker, Harrington began to depart. Seeing that Bishop was visibly upset with this action, Harrington asked, "Do you want me to stay?" Bruce Bishop replied elegantly to the effect that it would be nice if he did indeed remain. So at the conclusion of Bishop's remarks directed toward Harrington, Senator Harrington once again inquired, "Can I leave now?" Bishop consented to let Harrington take leave; however, he seemed disconcerted at the whole proceeding.

As for the contents of Bruce Bishop's address, he dwelt upon the fact that today, students are the only group in the college community not directly involved in the decision making process. Moreover, a line had to be drawn somewhere; so why not draw a lengthy one in excluding 130,000 students of public higher education. But why not? Well, for one item, since the voting age has been lowered to 18, these same students represent a large voting section of Massachusetts' voting population. For another reason, while much emphasis is now being placed upon a college diploma as the means for "getting ahead," then accordingly, why should there be talk of limiting access, of putting costs of higher education beyond the reach of the citizens. Finally, because education should ideally benefit society as a whole, legislators and other responsible bodies in government should reassess the priorities and goals in providing higher education for those who seek it.

Next on the floor came Governor Michael Dukakis. Oops, no its Secretary of Educational Affairs Paul Parks, a member of the Dukakis Cabinet. Where is Governor Dukakis? It seems likely that he may not have felt glib today, possibly even glum at the prospect of his upcoming visit to Fitchburg State College on March 12 between the hours of 10 a.m. and noon at Weston Auditorium. Ah, but this is merely speculation by the F.S.C. contingent. At any rate, Parks' speech mainly concerned itself with the open discussion which should occur about the reorganization issue by appropriate bodies, whatever or whoever they may be.

Lastly, State Representative James G. Collins spoke of not rushing reorganization but to look at it upon its own merits. Although admittedly a supporter of the University of Massachusetts in all of its dealings (he is also a graduate of the same institution), Collins stated in a subsequent workshop session that the politics should be taken out of public higher education.

In any event, the audience - composed primarily of active participants in Student Government Associations in public higher education institutions across Massachusetts with a sprinkling of U. Mass. faculty members - was apparently aware of a debate which will ensue at a later date between opponents, Governor Dukakis and Senate President Harrington. And although Dukakis avoided this confrontation today with Harrington, certainly, they shall meet soon. At any rate, Harrington promises to conduct himself in a "spirit of civility" when such a clash does take place.

# "Days of Future Past....."

On March 12th, Circa 1999, His most Revered and Honored Majesty Mao McWallace condescended to visit the campus of Fitchburg State Industrial College, a state institution in the commonwealth of Taxachusetts, USA. Since cameras were forbidden at the closed meeting, we will attempt verbal description of His Majesty and his entourage as well as of those who attended the meeting.

This reporter, as sole representative of the "Censure," FSI's school newspaper, was invited by President XZ900, a computer now serving as acting Dean of FSI, which esteemed computerage was accompanied by his 147 secretaries, all IBM Selectrics, with excellent legs and pearly keyboards. Also present was Faculty Rep. Drafus Boob, now 300 years old and still muttering incomprehensive invective under his bad breath, a once lethal fighter for faculty freedom, this pitiable remnant of a crusader is now a harmless shriveled mummy with no teeth, no hair and hardly any voice at all. Prof. Boob was accompanied by 2 Student Worker Representatives, Blot Burner and Jonathan Bing, active activists both, these young men are led into the room wearing blindfolds, ankle bracelets and wrist chains; as they seat themselves they create such a clanking and rattling that it becomes necessary to remove their blindfolds so they can more quietly arrange themselves in the available cages. However, now that the two have gazed upon their adversaries, they will probably be shot before they can reveal what they have seen to any underground source such as moles, groundhogs or worms. At any rate, I at least received the utmost courtesy as a member of the press; I was given a comfortable, quiet seat in the soundproof chamber next to the council room and an excellent set of stereo earphones was provided for me. However, it was difficult for me to determine what the speakers were saying during the session due to the stereo static that was constantly in my ears. Fortunately I accidentally found the trouble; a misplaced lump of cement with wires sticking out of it had somehow lodged itself in my left earphone, and after removing this obstacle I could hear quite well all of the proceedings.

FSI's President began the meeting in his resonant metallic voice, introducing all present to one another, and smiling through the two-way mirror at me with his lighted dials. When XZ900 had whirled off into his corner to be recharged by his giggling secretaries, His Majesty, Mao McWallace drew himself up to his full height of 3" (he is a very evolved creature, nothing but a great big head and no body) cleared his short throat and began to speak about unity, brotherhood, pinkoes, and the importance of sticking to our own kind. All of the taped response audience cheered at this, and, encouraged, the legendary leader contin-

ued. He spoke of a dream; asking not what your public works department can do for you, but rather asking which of your neighbors would make good fodder for the city compost heap. He envisioned a great future for the workers as he stated that all any of us have to lose is everything, and urged any and all of us to try anything. Here, the Royal bodyguards, 1400 Cossacks on winged horses raised their gattling guns, clever devices built into the necks of the horses, and peppered the room, just for effect. The result was the immediate and bloody demise of everyone present with the exception of McWallace, the bodyguards and myself, protected in my chamber next door.

Mao left the room somewhat stunned, murmuring something about having come to bury someone not to praise him. . . (One must comment that our esteemed leader certainly accomplished his purpose in this matter). Work crews were immediately dispatched to clean up the carnage, a mixture of human flesh and tarnished ticker tape, and new machines were then issued to replace those lost, as well as three new machines made especially to replace and resemble the three humans lost in a valiant attempt to uphold their cause. Of course, it was never clear quite what the cause was, and now that the computers are ready nobody will ever miss the men anyway. Even their wives won't know the difference; such is the wonder of science. I, meanwhile, crept off undetected to hide in an airshaft; I am there still; I eat dust balls and type in the wee hours of the morning on a minimachine I keep in my pocket. It is a precarious position and somewhat limited in diversity due to the cramped quarters and lack of travel permitted, but I have not as yet been detected; I am quiet and I don't smell much yet, so perhaps I shall have some good years here in my airless, empty dark den before I am forced to emerge into a world devoid of any of my kind.

I say this because in my tenure here I have seen many changes. Quietly and without fanfare, hundreds upon hundreds of the weary, dreary half asleep halfwits that peopled this campus have been whisked away to the radar ovens and replaced with buzzing computers chanting, "We shall overcome" and "The company is all..." to the tune of the Star Spangled Banner in C flat!. Now there are school lunch programs, medical care for all, cultural events at appropriately scheduled times, work for all, food for all, a chicken (dehydrated, of course) in every synthetic basket and harmony and accord everywhere. . . a veritable Eutopia. And I sit and watch. . . and wait. . . reminds me vaguely of a tall Indian with a broom I met somewhere once. . . seems he couldn't speak or something. . . ah, the memories fade. I can hear the "clock, click, whirr, whirr. . ." all day, all

night. Once I could have jumped out of here and brandished my mighty sword, my poet's pen, but I bided my time, I slunk into safety and security, and now my legs are cramped and my eyes are blurred, and I shall be a sorry sight when I emerge at last to meet my fate.

I am burying these pages in a time capsule in this tunnel; I scratched away the purified polyethelene with a boyscout (forbidden) jackknife and plugged it up with bubblegum. Those of you who find and read these words may be others like me; perhaps survivors of that last war I heard them plotting in the faculty men's room, or. . . who knows what manner of being you will be. But I was a woman, human, imperfect, silly sometimes and a pariah among my peers, striving for success, often careless and callous, always afraid. I hope you will not destroy my words nor misunderstand them, for I fear they foretell more than even a wretched creature like me may now know. I can hear the echoes of footsteps, voices, they have detected my presence here and, like Ann Franke, I never even had a baby. Oh, well. . . such is life. . . or is it?

Felicia Morningstar

## Be healthy!!

By  
Janice Farineau  
Nursing Student

Announcing the creation of our new health forum - in hopes of raising your level of health awareness and providing a resource for any health-related questions that you may have. Please submit all questions of concern to the Rhetoric office or Box #2441 - no reasonable requests will be refused. shouldn't always eat what you can? Some 6 million people canned their own food in 1975. If you are one of them, the Agriculture Department strongly advises that you check each jar for spoilage or, contamination before eating its contents. Look for the following telltale signs:

A jar that is bulging or leaking means that the seal has been broken and the food is -poiled. Don't eat it!

A bad odor or, mold on food means contamination. Destroy the contents.

Even a properly sealed jar and fresh-looking and smelling food do not guarantee non-spoilage. Don't taste any home canned foods directly from the jar. Bring vegetables to a rolling boil, then cover and cook for at least 10 minutes; cover and boil meats for at least 20 minutes.

As a general rule, storing home canned foods in a cool, dry place will help retain good eating quality.

# Counter Intelligence and Real Fiction

In WAMPETERS FOMA & GRAN-FALLOONS there is mention of a certain "Hunter Thompson's Disease." It's an affliction common to that segment of the populace that reads, and I don't mean "Good Housekeeping" and "Popular Mechanics." "Hunter Thompson's Disease" is fatal. As author Vonnegut aptly states:

"...let all those who feel that Americans can be as easily led to beauty as to ugliness, to truth as to public relations, to joy as to bitterness, be said to be suffering from Hunter Thompson's disease."

We are led aren't we? We trot like happy beagles from class to class. Not that we mind; after all, we're here by choice. We drink COKE and BUD and smoke Marlboros. We are told what books to buy...we could buy other books, but who's got time? We are co-erced by rambling pseudo-pundits to cast our vote their way. We are led aren't we? Nobody's even mentioned your parents. Talk about being led. Anyway, we can be coaxed in the right direction or the wrong direction. It's up to them, they hold the cards.

It appears we're headed in the wrong direction. Why do you suppose they won't de-criminalize grass? Anyone who's read the evidence (and I mean all the evidence) knows that what the politicians spout are largely half-truths and thinly veiled biases. And if you think it'll be de-criminalized this election year you're nuts. Why aren't there

more Art Museums? Or Books? Or Culture for that matter? Huh?

We could be led to the truth and to beauty and to joy. We could be. Instead we're led to specialization and technology and, by proxy, to missiles and money.

Why are they doing this to us? Why not. They think that's what we want. Think about it. Think about those westerns you were brought up on. And those war-flicks... I bet there's still a big audience for war-flicks. Today the cowboys are cops and fire-persons. Even the six o'clock news reeks of spilt blood and guts. We lick it up.

This indicates what direction we want to be led, doesn't it? Just ask Richard Nixon, liar-at-large. Somewhere between the Bible and Today something went wrong. Our direction was changed.

Maybe it was TV. Ever hear of subliminal television? From what I can gather, it has something to do with unconscious influences upon a person. For instance, if you could say that a 16 mm. film has sixteen frames zipping by your eye per second, then what do you suppose would happen if someone inserted one frame with a message on it somewhere within those sixteen other frames? Say an ice cream cone or a cool cocktail. They say your unconscious would pick up the suggestion even though the images projected to your brain through your eyeballs would add up to something else. What do you make of that?

It's been outlawed by the FCC. The

Federal Communications Commission. We all know the federal government doesn't break it's own laws.

Television, by the way, was the best thing that ever happened to Nixon et al. As soon as the Impeachment process became serialized by daily exposure, the cast of characters began to resemble the Good Guys and the Bad Guys. And of course, the Good Guys won. Nixon didn't win but he did walk away with his paycheck. Just like the Bad Guys that get paid by Universal Studios.

That is the way our government thinks, by the way. From killing off redskins to butchering gooks, we've fervently clung to the belief that we are the Good Guys. Even when they tell us a Hero (real or imaginary) has been killed, they sugar-coat the truth about it. Thoughtful, huh? "We don't want the public to panic" is a favorite axiom.

Oh, also by the way...do you know how the stuff you see on TV gets there in the first place? The television networks plug into a couple of hundred TV's. A cross-section of America they call it. This cross-section determines what's popular by a series of recorded but "indiscriminant" channel-changes and on's-and-off's. These televisions speak for America to many poll-watchers. There are many poll-watchers. There are not too many readers. Those of you there are, take heed. You may "be said to be suffering from Hunter Thompson's disease."

by A. W. Blagdon



# SPORTS

## On Track with Track



The track team is busy preparing for another competitive outdoor season. Fair weather aided the team for a while as they were training at the grand Bernardian Bowl (Fitchburg State still doesn't have a track for some reason). Now the snow and vacation will upset their conditioning somewhat. I believe Mr. Cunningham may be responsible for this miserable weather. Somebody upstairs likes him. However the Falcons are confident of duplicating last year's undefeated tour if they remain healthy. Coach Jim Sheehan states there is

a great deal of competition within the team, and this is important for morale as well as conditioning. Sheehan's biggest concern in dual meets is Salem State. They meet Salem April 3 in a tri-meet with Assumption, and later one on one. If they take Salem they should jet to the title.

The team has been dealt a serious blow by the loss of Scott Haverty, a top notch javelin man. He was to be counted on for a lot of points, to boost the competitiveness of the field events. The team lacks depth in the field events. The personnel are there but its

a matter of experience. The potential is tremendous but I think the field events will be struggling all season. Haverty was bound for the nations again this year, but a knee injury has de-commissioned him for the season. Scott was ranked #4 Division III NCAA last year. This is a very tough break because Scott trains all year to compete in the spring and whatever AAU meets he can catch in the summer. Scott is the captain of the field events squad and everybody will be rooting for a speedy recovery.

Jim Sheehan isn't shook. He's confident that superb leg men will offset any weaknesses in the field events. Rick Brown remains and is especially impressive in the hurdles. He was the 8th fastest high school low hurdler in the country last year. Now he's even handling the high hurdles well. His act also includes sprints, relays, pole vault, and high jump. Rick is conditioned well enough to compete in several events without spreading himself out too thin. As a matter of fact Brownie hopes to run a concession stand to earn extra money for meals on the long road trips. Rick will be backed up by Paul Leone, who was very strong in the hurdles last spring. Glen Govey will team up with Rick in the pole vault. Glen is also very strong. John White should easily repeat as the best hammer thrower in the conference. He holds the school record of 125 ft. 11 in. but with his speed and coordination the conference record is within reach. John will probably throw the discus and the shot also. Peter will be counted on for support in the discus. The other weight men behind White are George Creely, Ed Creely, Conrad Sack and

Bill Allen.

The Burg sports a strong running attack led by distance men Rich McDonald, Mike Malloy, Al Bennet, Bill Andrews, Mark Gatti, and Bob Dennis. The Mid-distance guys are graced by the powerful Brian McGee, Don Rist and Jim Silverio. Consistent and gutsy. The sprinter are awesome. Jim Corrao and Jeff Kaitschuck are returning dash men. These guys always produce an exciting race. Corrao also does the longjump. Their partners in crime are Ben Johnson, Tom Allingham, and of course Brownie. This rapid transit system will provide the excitement in the oft times crucial relays. The 440 relay as Sheehan plans it will probably consist of Brown leading off, Kaitschuck 2nd, Johnson 3rd, and Corrao the anchor man. Corrao is noted for his persistence, guts, and speed. He's outstanding when the pressure is on, or if he must come from behind. He'll go after anybody and he won't quit. As the the mile relay (each guy does a 440) Corrao and Brown are definite but Sheehan will use the strongest of several other sprint men to fill out the event. He could use Johnson, Leone, McGee or Silverio at will.

One thing this club is not lacking is esprit de corps, but student support is also influential. There are 3 home meets scheduled (So. Me. Voc. Tech, Clark who is tough, and Assumption) so let's make it a point to show the guys we're behind them. You'd be surprised how exciting a collegiate track and field meet can be.

Rick Gallant

## Hoopsters Cop Tourney Title

by Richard J. Gallant



a bitter taste in their mouths. They lost 72-61. Fitchburg played excellent ball as they outshot, out-rebounded Westfield. Unfortunately the girls were victims of incompetent and severely prejudicial officiating. The Falcons were marionettes and the refs held the strings. Miss Nole prepared a formal protest and sent it to the league but IT probably has been folded, spindled, mutilated and round filed by now. The standouts for the Burg were: Judy Seguin 17; Denise Plante 16; Debbie Dion 12, and 10 assists; Linda Reedy 8; Lisa Adams 4; Smiley Finn 2 and 16 big rebounds. Pattie Gardner also had 2 points.

The birds maintained their high spirit and again played well while drubbing Assumption 58-33. Fitchburg set up a stiff defense and worked the ball well offensively. Actually Assumption is only in its third year of women's basketball. Smiley Finn and Judy Seguin accounted for 20 rebounds. Cheryl Meninno 6 points, Kris Korona had 6 assists and 2 points, Linda Reedy added 2. The game was close for the first quarter, then Assumption couldn't keep pace and the burg blew them out.

How many games are decided at the foul line? Missed foul shots are a coaches nightmare, and Fitchburg flubbed 22 charity tosses against Brown Univ., Yes Brown won - 73-60, they're Ivy league, unlimited budget and all that crap but there is no excuse for missing 22 free throws. The worst part is that the game was close throughout and Brown outscored us by only 2 in the second half. Scorers for Fitchburg were: J. Seguin 17; (lucky number didn't help); D. Dion 14; L. Adams and D. Plante 8; L. Reedy and P. Gardner 4; Smiley and C. Meninno 3 points. Top rebounders were Seguin and Finn (12,10).

Sharp Talons scratched Boston State and the result was a comfortable 18 point halftime lead in favor of the Falcons. However turnovers plagued Fitchburg in the second half and the lead diminished. The girls held on to win 59-57. They played to the best of their ability on defense and this was essential when the offense fizzled. Smiley Finn and Linda Reedy ripped 11 and 9 rebounds respectively. High scorers were Debbie Dion 16; (a phenomenal 87% from the field) with 6 assists; Denise Plante 12; Lisa Adams 11; Smiley and Kris Korona 4. Debbie Coburn and Judy Seguin 3 points.

Te girls went on to beat Salem and Framingham, thus capturing the State Conference Title. But they didn't stop there. In the MAIAW, (Massachusetts

Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women - say that 3 times fast), tournament the Falcons beat Tufts in the first round 58-46. Then Fitchburg took Westfield to school in a grudge match 61-51. Worcester defeated us in the final round (59-54), so Fitchburg finished second in the tournament.

This was just a warm-up for the biggy. These young women went to New York for the EALAW (guess) tournament self-admitted underdogs, but they played the best basketball of the season as they beat New York City College (the largest college in the world due to open enrollment) handily 75-51. Debbie Dion was absolutely super with 25 points, 9 rebounds and 7 assists. Smiley Finn ripped 17 big rebounds and added 9 points. Outstanding performances were also made by Denise Plante 19; Judy Seguin 16; Linda Reedy 6; Mary Means 4; and Lisa Adams 2 points. At this point the girls were still probably a little nervous. According to coach Nole they really didn't expect to get this far. They were satisfied for a while, until Bloomsburg (sister of the Burg) threatened to eliminate them in the second round. Bloomsburg was No. 1 seed in the tournament and the Falcons trailed the whole game (except halftime tie). However balanced scoring and very tough defense enabled the girls to pull off another theft, 59-58. The scoring Bloomsburg (Penn.) went: Seguin, 13, Smiley a fantastic 13 points and 13 rebounds, Plante 11, Adams, Means and Dion had 6 points but Debbie also grabbed a phenomenal 19 rebounds and made 6 assists. Linda Reedy got 4 points. After this the girls were more relaxed and much more confident. Now they knew they could do it and they did. The Burg beat St. Francis (NY) in another tough battle, 63-59. Scorers for us were: Plante 22; Dion 12; Seguin 11; Smiley had 10 points, Reedy 6 and Means 2. Judy and Smiley combined for 23 rebounds. The most important factor of this tournament for Fitchburg was its staunch defense. The Falcons stifled teams who usually score a lot of points, with a run and gun style of play. It's one hell of an honor to participate in a tournament equivalent to the NIT.

Teamwork, discipline and desire are things that produce champions and Barbara Nole is to be commended highly for her dedicated guidance toward such an end. I wish to personally congratulate and thank all of these fine women for representing Fitchburg State College so nobly. True Falcons.

The women hoopsters won the most important game this season (12 Feb.) when they beat Worcester State 64-62. This marked the first victory over Worcester in the history of the school. The triumph is also significant because it places Fitchburg in excellent position to capture the State Conference Championship. It was a very exciting, well played contest. Coach Barbara Nole and the girls wish to emphasize the amazing influence the crowd transmitted by enthusiastic support (so rare here). The scoring went as follows: Judy Seguin 17 points; Denise Plante 14 points; Lisa Adams 12 points; MaryAnne Finn 11 points; Debbie Dion 6 points (including winning basket); Linda Reedy 4 points. Again the home team advantage was a decisive factor in a close game. Smiley Finn controlled the boards and Debbie Dion made 9 assists.

The Falcons were served some real home cooking in Westfield and they returned with

## New Track at FSC

It appears that Fitchburg State is finally going to build a track and field facility. It was learned in an interview with Dr. Guindon, the director of planning and development, that the target date for groundbreaking operations is mid-May or at the latest the first week in June. Fitchburg is the last of the state colleges to produce a track only because 5 years ago the plans were stashed under some carpet and trodden upon by budget hassles. The dream of a supplemental athletic facility was all but forgotten. Well now the ghost of J. Michael Anthony has mysteriously stepped in as benefactor to this lowly institution. The project will cost 1/2 million dollars: 380 gs for actual construction and 120 thou for design, surveying and supervision. An additional 15 grand is to be allocated for appropriate athletic equipment.

The facility will consist of a 1/4 mile all weather track enclosing a new soccer field. Dr. Guindon has consulted track coach Jim Sheehan and Athletic director Dr. Battinelli in reference to track specifications and equipment needs. Probably the most interesting aspect of the new track is the, idea promoted by Jim Sheehan, to measure and mark the track metrically. This is encouraged by the AAU and the NCAA because it's the coming thing and it makes sense to take the initiative in coping with change. The soccer field will probably be sodded instead of seeded since date of completion is projected as mid-September. The team might like some turf to play on. Water lines will be extended to the field so proper maintenance can be conducted.

The site is south of the existing tennis courts (the civic center side of the tennis courts). Proper steps are being considered in respect to conservation, however Dr. Guindon doesn't foresee any problems related to drainage or land violation. An additional tennis court is also planned.

RJC



# Dukakis and Parks parley with students/faculty here



Michael Dukakis, governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, visited the campus here on Friday, March 12; Dukakis, accompanied by Paul Parks, Massachusetts Secretary of Education spoke to students and faculty at Weston Auditorium, an event sparsely attended by our 'politically aware' student body. Poor advertisement, some confusion in dates and conflicting class schedules must, in all fairness, have been responsible for the nearly empty auditorium; and the relatively small number in attendance were courteous and interested in the issues presented during the session.

FSC President, Vincent Mara, introduced Governor Dukakis with a few opening remarks about "similarities in educational goals", mentioning that the limitations of current educational aspirations was due to a "money tree gone dry." He expressed a desire to reach workable solutions for the problems that beset our institutions of high learning during financial hard times.

Certainly the key issue on the minds of students in Dukakis' audience was 'structural reorganization,' and Dukakis introduced the subject right away saying that 'analysis and discussion' were necessary in revising our educational system. He outlined three primary items on his list of priorities aimed toward this end.

1.) Goals - the State College System must provide ACCESS to higher education for all who meet the requirements. We need, therefore, a rational, comprehensive tuition program, including an optional 'waiver' of tuition costs for qualified students in cases of need.

2.) PRESERVATION and STRENGTHENING within the system of educational DIVERSITY in order to provide a broad background to our college students.

3.) ACCOUNTABILITY will be essential in the lean years ahead; Educators and Public Officials must make the dollars work at top value, eliminating "artificial lines", co-ordinating unnecessary "duplications."

SCOTT TURNER, president of FSC's Student Government Association was given the floor, and there can be no misinterpretation of Scott's stand in re to State Senator Kevin Harrington's Reorganization Bill. The bill proposes a merger of State Colleges with the University of Massachusetts, and promises to save taxpayers' money and provide a more efficient College System. When, questions SGA's president, has BIGGER ever meant more efficient? Turner pointed out that to 'merge' would mean a system dealing with some 113 thousand students; how could this possibly be better - or cheaper than our present system? Turner noted that Dukakis has always been a staunch supporter of college students, and expressed a hope that the Governor would stand firm for us against reorganization. He also made mention of the possible political aspirations of Senator Harrington, raising a question as to how such personal ambition might color Harrington's judgement in this matter.

Douglas Hebb, FSC Faculty Association president spoke next, beginning his address with a rather humorous analogy; comparing the position of FSC's faculty to the man double-parked outside a warehouse who runs inside to satisfy his needs only to find all the damsels occupied with previous patrons. So it is at this time, maintains Hebb, with the faculty here; they want their needs taken care of and feel insecure in the present situation. He noted that the Mass.

Fiscal 1977 Budget calls for a 10% faculty layoff at FSC, and that with this threat to their security, educators here can scarcely be interested in other structural problems. He also noted that a rumor exists that existing programs here are scheduled to be discontinued, and that a good deal of vocational education would be introduced. In regard to 'restructure', Hebb accused Legislators of having more interest in the preservation of the existing bureaucracy than with assuring equal opportunity in Education. Mass. cited Hebb, ranks 38th in percapita US dollars pent on higher education, representing only 11% of the state expenditures. Hebb expressed discontent with Chap. 150 E, Mass. Gen. Law (public employee Collective Bargaining) and questions a deliberate attempt by public officials to frustrate collective action.

The floor was opened to questions, and Walter King, a student and active SGA member, addressed Dukakis first: The situation as Water sees it is that with Harrington's bill now before this session of the Legislature there is a question of whether the "rational consideration" the Governor mentioned will indeed be given to all aspects of the bill.

Q. Will Governor Dukakis veto this bill if it arrives on his desk, and if so, will he have the support to maintain the Veto?

A. Such assumptions are, claimed Dukakis, "unfair" to Senator Harrington, whom he feels does have the best interests of students in mind, and, while last fall's proposal is in many ways unsatisfactory, there are hearings going on now; and he maintained that there is not now any bill nor any definite plan, only ideas being discussed by the Legislative Committee on Higher Education. Dukakis described the present situation as an ongoing consensus as events progress, and he assured us that he is confident that an appropriate solution will be reached.

SECRETARY PARKS here inserted a comment that the budget does not in itself require the 10% layoffs feared by Mr. Hebb, and in fact represents a slight increase in funds. Portioning of those funds will to a large degree rest with the individual institutions.

Q. Bernie Schultz, another SGA member and "Rhetoric" staffer asked Dukakis whether he foresees a closing of FSC's doors as a result of fiscal and restructuring reductions.

A. Dukakis promptly and simply answered "NO", but seemed reluctant to pursue such an idea.

A member of FSC's faculty now posed a question.

Q. PROF. BOURQUE, Languages, asked whether the Budget mandates any layoffs.

A. SEC. PARKS responded by reiterating that portioning of funds takes place within the institutions themselves and the state does not usually interfere.

GOV. DUKAKIS mentioned here that the reason the new budget includes a modest increase is due to the tuition increase, and expressed his strong belief that 50% of this increase should be recycled back to the individual institutions and stated that such a proposal will require faculty support.

BOURQUE assured Dukakis of his agreement.

SEC. PARKS posed a question to Prof. Bourque, asking, then in regard to "careers" and "vocations" in State Colleges, what Bourque felt the drive should be.

Bourque cited economy, not subject curriculum as the reason for the lack of jobs, and voiced his opinion that the mission of state colleges should be to provide an "academic mixture" of Liberal Arts and Career programs. He mentioned FSC's successful programs in Industrial Arts, Nursing and Special Ed. and felt that integration of such career-oriented courses into a broad educational background would better prepare individuals to find related jobs.

The next question was posed by Assoc. English Prof. Shepherd who said he feels dissatisfied with the "learning by doing" philosophy, noting that programs which are too specialized may become obsolete, leaving more college graduates to find room in the growing unemployment lines. But Shepherd seemed not entirely against a state take-over in education and noted how much better he found California's colleges to be now that they are under government control.

SEC. PARKS remarked that he sees education as more than just getting a job, but this should surely be one of its goals. However, such goals should not dictate a special type of education for the "poor" in our society and he stated that what is needed is mutual co-operation between all concerned, expansion when and where necessary, an acclimation of needs and goals which will not minimize the effectiveness of higher education. Parks described his vision of education as "broad, liberal and diverse."

SHEPHERD inserted a suggestion that College Liberal Arts program add another year to the present 4-year requirement, mentioning such common societal ailments as College illiteracy as a good reason to consider a 5-year degree program at State Colleges. He did mention, however, that "idiots" were not unique to State Colleges, Universities have their share of incompetent students. Mainly, concluded Shepherd, we should all be striving for "excellence." He posed now a query in which he cited the proliferation of highly paid Executives in the midst of overcrowded classes and threats of faculty cuts. Shepherd questioned, how and why determinations are made as to the great diversity in pay scales (faculty vs Exec.) in the Colleges. Dukakis and Sec. Parks easily dodged this issue and spoke again of a National Economic problem, probably worst in New England and stated that the mission of educators and legislators was to insure exciting worthwhile futures for college graduates.

Q. BOB SHAUGHNESSY (Physics/Computer Science) made a statement in protest of the discouraging use of the term "vocational", saying that the concern of a 4-year college must be in providing a firm foundation in the "fundamentals". He suggested that subjects should not be arranged to relate to "majors" but rather be later integrated into a total educational picture. Such broad backgrounds provide more freedom in career choices for college graduates.

SEC. PARKS commented that the ability to utilize knowledge was certainly a determining factor in the quality of work produced by graduates.

VALERIE MOONEY, an Elementary Ed. student stood now to express her discontent with the Public School Breakfast Program (a State Mandate) stating that she and her peers were training to be "educators - not babysitters."

DUKAKIS was firm here, stating that Nutrition is directly connected to learning, ability and therefore not removed from the total educational picture for an underprivileged child. 'Hunger in the Classroom' is a reality, stated Dukakis, and therefore the food program is a sound social need.

VALERIE did not believe it realistic to attempt to provide nutrition to every hungry child and found this procedure a disruptive one to the process of education.

SEC. PARKS staunchly supported the program, expressing a concern for creating a good learning environment in order to produce the best growth potential to students. Total concern for the youngster's well-being as well as to impart knowledge is his idea of the goal of public elementary education.

Q. A female student, identifying herself as a "financial aide" student was concerned with the lack of funds for BEOG and other F.A. programs. "We have a right to our education, too," she stated.

A. DUKAKIS pointed out that we have "crying need" in the areas of Human Services and Public Welfare as well as in Education and stressed the need for new national leadership as a means to better economic situations, and again mentioned the "waiver" policy where, in cases of need, students would gain entry to State Colleges for little or no charge. Dukakis expressed a hope for renewed efforts on the part of public officials, college trustees and educators to put their heads together with taxpayers and students and come up with workable solutions to our current dilemmas.

DR. MARA closed the session with the usual "thank-you's" and mentioned his belief the college administration, faculty and students could work together, reminding us of FSC's OPEN HOUSE sessions held on Monday afternoons from 3:30 to 5 p.m. He also noted that all issues and questions had certainly not been covered, and quoted for those requiring additional information, the following address.

Governor's Assistant Secretary,  
Joseph Warren  
1 Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA.

## Roger F. Holmes Award reminder

You are reminded that this year a \$100 reward will be made to some student for a paper in the historiographic mode. Some of the details are given here; others may be determined by checking with Mr. Hebb of the History Dept.

In 1971 the Dept. of History and Geography, seeking to honor the long services of Prof. Holmes to the department, the college and the general community, assumed responsibility for sponsoring the Roger F. Holmes Award. Contributions to the Fund were made by members of all departments of the college and by the general community. The plan of the Fund is to make an annual award to the student submitting the best paper to the Dept. of History and Geography in the historical style. The contest, by vote of the department, is open to all undergraduates, regardless of major. Papers are limited in topics only to the extent that they must relate to the human experience and that they be developed in accordance with the historical method. Papers offered in competition must be presented to the chairman of the Dept. of History and Geography by Sept. 1, 1976.

The papers offered must, in order to receive consideration, represent standards of good composition and term paper style. While students are encouraged to submit papers previously turned in as part of course work, they are advised that only clean copies will be considered. Of course the college rules about plagiarism prevail. It is expected that the normal amount of direction usually provided by a professor to a student in preparing a term paper will obtain. Whatever the area, topic, or subject developed by the paper, the approach must be more than antiquarian; the paper must clearly state a thesis and, within the limitations of an undergraduate paper, prove it.

Interested students are advised to check with Mr. Hebb for details as to the style requirements of the paper. If you decide to enter the competition, register with the chairman of the Dept. of History and Geography and obtain a number to be used by you in place of your name on the title page of your paper.



# Before the Fall of the Empire or How to Say Good-bye the Way Spencer Tracey Would Have Done It

My tenure (or perhaps sentence) in that most distinguished and agonizing office of editor-in-chief of the Rhetoric is hurrying towards its culminating hour. I am not soaking any handkerchiefs with salty tears; nor am I turning cartwheels and chilling the champagne. I recognize that I have not exactly been Perry White and that I will never be elected to the "Newspaperman's Hall of Fame", but I never did profess to be a newspaperman. I only desired to direct the Rhetoric away from the boring, pompous and phillistine high-schoolish publications of previous years. I am not, nor have I ever been, a politically aware, self-seeking, ambitious editor. I am just me, an ordinary neurotic schmuck with a dime's worth of chutzpah and a harmless, slightly perverted sense of humour. But I did have fun, and; I think that I also helped to construct and create a somewhat entertaining publication. I have no regrets.

I also have no fatherly chips of wisdom to offer the successor to my throne. I can only wish her or him, the best of luck in future endeavors.

I also wish to offer my sincere gratitude and warmest thanks to those good people who so capably assisted me in churning out the Rhetoric publications. Their reward is slim and their sacrifices were great, but without their help there would have been no Rhetoric.

From that rank of journalistic slaves, a few very special people, who have tolerated my quirks and moods and stuck with me from that optimistic beginning in September to this, the conclusion, deserve the best that I can give. I would especially like to commend and thank:

Barbara Pare and Karen Grasso - the two

most vivacious, patient and pretty lay-out laborers that I know. (excuse the sexist commentary) They withstood my constant but lovable criticism of their work and never hit me once.

Paula Rudenauer - Rhetoric's Feature creature and a precious woman with wit, Paula continued as leader of our featureless Feature staff even though no one, not even Wally King, ever attended her department meetings.

Rick (Snake) Gallant - The muscle of Rhetoric, Snake, so named because he seems to always be making an asp of himself, is one of the most dilligent, persevering, no-nonsense guys around. Despite his gruff exterior and his fetish for female basketball palyers, Snake is truly a lovely human being. His telephone number is 99206.

Mary Ellen Walsh - Mary Ellen Walsb, who has given more of herself than this place deserves, was the hackhone of the Rhetoric. She is a remarkably gifted and insightful writer, a tireless fighter, and an honest, intelligent, exquisite woman. I wholeheartedly helieve that she deserves to be the next editor of this mess that I am leaving behind. I am positive that if she is, indeed, elected, she will do an outstanding job and create an informative, creative, entertaining, exceptional newspaper.

To complete the roll call of appreciation, I would also like to thank the Boston Symphony Orchestra (they accompanied me through the good and the bad) and Audrey Hephurn. Why thank Audrey Hephurn, you may well ask. Well, she's prettier than Bill Keough and because, quite frankly, I've just always wanted to.

Steve Walkowicz

## FSC band to perform at President's Park in Washington

The FSC Band has been nominated by the Music Educators National Conference and appointed by the National Parks Service to perform a Concert at the President's Park in Washington, D. C. as part of the nation's Bicentennial Celebration. The concert will take place on Friday, April 16 at noon.

While on their Bicentennial tour the Band will also perform a concert in Philadelphia, visit colonial Williamsburg, Virginia and return to Washington for an Easter Sunday concert at the Pilgrimage.

The College Band and Jazz-Rock Ensemble will be performing a pre-tour Bicentennial concert of Music to be played on tour. The performance will feature music of American Composers from the Revolu-

tionary Era up to modern jazz and rock. This concert is open to the public at a modest admission price and will be held on Wednesday evening, April 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Weston Auditorium on the FSC campus. All are invited to help the band launch a very successful tour by purchasing tickets or becoming a Patron or Sponsor. For ticket information contact the FSC College Band, Music Dept., Fitchburg State College. Tickets will also be available at the door.

1976-76 Band officers include: Joanne Delaney, President; Paul Gervais, Vice-president; Betty Carter, Secretary-Treasurer; Tricia Rose, Librarian; Gus Cousins, Manager; and Frank C. Patterson, Band Director.

## Geography Club News

The Geography Club has the spring semester off to a busy start for those involved, and there are promises of bigger and better things to come. Fund raising events have helped to fatten our treasury and will help to finance our scheduled field trips.

On February 19, a meteorologist of local renown, Roger LaPlante, delivered a lecture to a S.R.O. crowd in the Student Union. He discussed the educational requirements and employment opportunities for aspiring weather forecasters, including the \$30,000 starting salaries. This was followed by two films, one on the 1953 Worcester tornado, and another on a hurricane which raged through the southeastern United States.

A follow-up trip was also held on March 11 to Mr. LaPlante's TV base in Worcester at Channel 27. The group was given a tour of the facilities and then allowed to watch the 10 p.m. live news broadcast.

An afternoon visit has also been scheduled to Harvard's Peabody Museum on April 2. This museum is widely acclaimed for its rock and mineral collection

and the rock hounds among us are eagerly awaiting the trip.

Our annual spring field trip is also drawing close. This year we will travel to Arcadia National Park in Maine on Friday, April 30 and return Sunday, May 2. Deadline for signups is April 1.

The club wishes to thank the Mohawk Club in Shirley for hosting the All-College Party on February 25, but "no thanks" to them concerning the March 10 party.

At our March 4 meeting, new officers were elected to replace those forced to resign for the semester. Bill Gutkowski, our vice-president, succeeded Maryellen Husher, who is off campus participating in an internship, as President; Mary Laflamme was elected to fill Bill's vacated office. Judy Macioci also stepped down from her secretarial post to student teach and was replaced by Maureen McDavitt.

Our club meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of each month in T-315 during the All-College Hour. All interested are welcome to attend.

Maureen McDavitt

## THE RHETORIC OFFICE

is now carrying on its dubious function at a new locale — We have finally evacuated the dungeon at Thompson Hall and now occupy a luxuriously clean and empty room in the Campus Center. Still in the basement, the RHETORIC OFFICE is B22 — Across from the Game Room, adjacent to SGA. Drop in anytime — Like this Tuesday's open meeting at 11 o'clock. we enjoy comment, criticism and **HELP!**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 30**  
**Professor John P. Clark**  
speaking on

**WHAT IS THE SYSTEM?**  
or

**How America Works**  
7:30 PM At New Hall

Academy Award Winner  
Best Documentary Feature  
**HEARTS  
AND MINDS**

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 31st**  
3:00 in Lecture Hall  
**FREE** 8:00 in Weston